

MNVW 230519Z JUL 79
 RUHQH
 RUSBLK #5147 1860315
 Y CCCCC ZZH
 R 232807Z JUL 79
 AEMBASSY KABUL
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4596
 FO RUSBLK/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 7979
 SBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7020
 EMMQ/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1718
 MJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2624
 QTHP/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 2295
 DTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1638
 JNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 3134
 JNRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 3325
 JHQA/CINCPAC
 JUSKAAA/CINCEUR

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 Change
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CONFIDENTIAL: A L KABUL 5147

E.O. 12265: GDS 7/5/85 (LATIN, BRUCE A.) OR-M
 TAGS: PEPR, AF, US
 SUBJ: CLOUD AFGHAN REGIME MAKES DISPLAY OF GOOD WILL ON
 AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

1. (C) AFGHAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION AT OUR JULY 4 RECEPTION
 WAS HIGH-RANKING, COMPARED TO THAT SEEN AT THE RECENT NATIONAL
 DAY RECEPTIONS OF OTHER FREE-WORLD EMBASSIES AT KABUL. ATTENDING
 OUR RECEPTION WERE: PROFESSOR MAHMUD SOOMA, MINISTER OF HIGHER
 EDUCATION AND MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMO-
 CRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA); DR. ABDUL RASHID JALILI,
 MINISTER OF EDUCATION--AND ANOTHER IMPORTANT KHALQI; AND
 ENGINEER MOHAMMED ISMAIL DANESH, MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUS-
 TRIES--WHO IS NEAR THE BOTTOM OF THE CABINET TOTEM POLE. IN
 COMPARISON, THE HIGHEST RANKING KHALQI TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S
 BRITISH QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION WAS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
 FIRST. (COMMENT: THE KHALQIS ARE MAD AT BBC.) COMPARED TO
 LAST YEAR, HOWEVER, WE HAVE COME DOWN A FEW PEGS. FOREIGN
 MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN ATTENDED OUR RECEPTION THEN.

1 (U) ON JULY 4, GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED "KABUL TIMES" RAN A
FRONT-PAGE PHOTOGRAPH OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND REPORTED THAT
PRESIDENT YARAKI HAD SENT HIM A CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM. THIS
IS A USUAL AFGHAN PRACTICE FOR ALL NATIONAL DAYS OF COUNTRIES
HAVING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH KABUL.

1 (U) THE SAME NEWSPAPER CARRIED A FRIENDLY EDITORIAL ABOUT
THE UNITED STATES--ALSO A CUSTOMARY PRACTICE ON NATIONAL DAYS.
THE TEXT WAS UPEBET, NOTING THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SECURED
THEIR INDEPENDENCE "AS A RESULT OF HARD STRUGGLES AND CAMPAIGNS."
THE "KABUL TIMES" CITED AMERICA'S "PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS"
WHICH "ARE TOO OBVIOUS TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD." THE
PAPER NOTED THAT: "THE PEOPLES OF AFGHANISTAN AND AMERICA HAVE
AT LEAST ONE IMPORTANT THING IN COMMON, AND THAT IS THEIR
INTEREST AND STRUGGLES AGAINST COLONIALISM AT THE START OF THE
OVERCROWDING OF THE COLONIALISTS; BOTH THE DRA AND THE USA HAVE
REJECTED COLONIALISM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR (RESPECTIVE)
REGIONS AND CONTINENTS."

1 (U) NOTING THAT AFGHANISTAN AND THE U.S. HAVE "HAD, FOR
MANY YEARS NOW, NORMAL RELATIONS," THE "KABUL TIMES" ALSO
STATED THE VALUE OF THEIR CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION,
INCLUDING THE U.S.-STUDY EXPERIENCES OF "A LARGE NUMBER OF
AFGHANS." THE PAPER OBSERVED THAT THE KHALQI REGIME IS KEEPING
THESE BILATERAL RELATIONS "NORMAL."

1 (U) SINCE WE HAVE NOTED A MIXING OF ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA
SINCE OUR JUNE 30 DEMARCHE TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DOST
ABOUT THE FAKE "SEIZED AMERICAN WEAPONS" PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE
AFGHAN MEDIA. PLATIN

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